

## Important information for parents about how to prepare your scout for any merit badge program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park!



Be sure that you are familiar with the requirements for the merit badge your scout has selected. Some badges can be are very demanding and may take considerable time and planning to complete. Some badges are not appropriate for younger scouts.

Most Merit Badges are not designed to be completed in a single session with an instructor, so it is not always possible to walk away with a completed and signed blue card at the end a program. Every badge requires some independent work by your scout. We call this “pre-work” because, if these requirements are performed **prior** to our program, we can complete and sign the merit badge card. Otherwise we will sign partial cards at the completion of our program and will have qualified counselors review assignments on an individual basis at a later date. Note you will have to contact and schedule an appointment with an appropriate staff member to do this. Not all staff members are qualified for all badges.

Merit badges are also supposed to be done with the buddy system. ***We strongly recommend that parents attend the program with your scout especially if he does not have a buddy.*** There is never a fee for adults and you are sure to learn something. The program will not proceed if there are not 2 or more adults present, especially for programs that include hikes. We will attempt to enlist adult volunteers from our center but this is not always possible so ***prepare for the possibility that you may have to stay for the program and not just drop off your scout.*** This will allow the instructor to concentrate more fully on the difficult task of imparting all the required information and assisting the boys individually if necessary, while other adults keep the atmosphere calm and productive.

Be sure your scout is dressed appropriately for being outdoors for some or all of the program time. Packing water and snacks is wise for long programs and programs scheduled in hot weather months.

Lastly, obtaining copies of the scout resource booklet for the merit badge can help prepare your scout working with his counselor and for completing any independent study. Books for the badges can be ordered at your local scouting store or at [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org) .

Thank you! And best wishes for success to your scout.

# PHOTOGRAPHY MERIT BADGE



**BE PREPARED:** The Photography Merit Badge at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park requires attendance at **two** sessions. The first focuses on accomplishing requirements 1 through 3 and 5. The second session is a photography show, where you will have the opportunity to fulfill requirement 4 and place your best photograph a group show that will be on display for park visitors. You will also be able to invite your parents to a celebratory “opening” of the group show.

## **PRE-WORK:**

- Please read the badge requirements carefully (see below) Any reading or research you can do on these topics before we meet will help to speed your completion of the workbook and the badge.
- You must have a camera — digital or film—that you can bring to the sessions and use to fulfill requirement 4. We do not provide cameras.
- Familiarize yourself with the camera and it’s basic operation. Read the owner’s manual if you have one.
- Research photography careers (see the resource pages below for where you can find information about careers) and choose one you might like. For the first session, **be prepared to discuss how you might prepare for the photography career.** What sort of education would you need? Are there special schools or classes? What sort of experiences would be helpful?
- Read the options for requirement 4 **and have some ideas for either a photo-story or a topic you would like to photograph.** NOTE: If you wish to do a photo-story, be aware the two scheduled sessions are just two weeks apart. Some photo-stories (eg a story about Walney Pond through the seasons) can take time to complete. If you wish to undertake such a project, please be sure you are photographing well in advance of the date of our merit badge sessions OR understand that you will not have the badge completed until you have completed your project.
- Start planning for the photography show that will comprise the second session. There are two parts to the show: 1) your personal, portable show of multiple images that you will present to the counselor and the group; and 2) a large-size print (on 8x10 paper) of the BEST image from your personal show to put up for the group show that will be on display to park visitors in the classroom.
- Acceptable formats for your multiple-image personal show include a slideshow (a CD or you may bring a laptop — NO flashdrives!). You can also mount small-size prints onto a board. Foam-core is light-weight and rigid and will work well. Illustration or mounting board will also work. Oaktag will be very floppy and difficult to handle during your presentation.

# PHOTOGRAPHY MERIT BADGE



## Requirements

1. Explain how the following elements and terms affect the quality of a picture:
  - a. Light--natural light/ambient, flash
  - b. Exposure--aperture (f-stops), shutter speed, depth of field
  - c. Composition--rule of thirds, leading lines, framing, depth
  - d. Angle of view
  - e. Stopping action
2. Explain the basic parts and operation of a film camera or digital camera. Explain how an exposure is made when you take a picture.
3. Discuss with your counselor the differences between a film camera and a digital camera. List at least five advantages and five disadvantages of using a digital camera versus using a film camera.
4. Do ONE of the following:
  - a. Produce a picture story using the photojournalistic technique of documenting an event. Share your plan with your counselor and get your counselor's input and approval before you proceed. Then, using either a film camera or a digital camera, produce your approved picture story. Process your images and select eight to 12 images that best tell your story. Arrange your images in order, then mount the prints on a poster board. If you are using digital images, you may create a slide show on your computer or produce printouts for your poster board. Share your picture story with your counselor.
  - b. Choose a topic that interests you to photograph for an exhibit or display. Get your counselor's approval, then photograph (digital or film) your topic. Process your images. Choose 20 of your favorite images and mount them on poster board. Share your display with your counselor. If you are using digital images, you may create a slide show on your computer or produce printouts for your poster board.
5. *Discuss with your counselor the career opportunities in photography. Pick one that interests you and explain how to prepare for such a career.* \*\* Discuss with your counselor the education and training such a career would require.

**\*\* Pre-Work Independent Study**

# PHOTOGRAPHY MERIT BADGE



## RESOURCES

### Books

- Burian, Peter K., and Robert Caputo. *Photography Field Guide: Secrets to Making Great Pictures*, 2nd ed. National Geographic, 2003.
- Busch, David D. *Mastering Digital Photography*. Muska & Lipman, 2003.
- Davies, Paul Harcourt. *The Complete Guide to Close-Up & Macro Photography*. David & Charles, 2002.
- Eastman Kodak Company, editors. *The Joy of Photography*. Perseus Publishing, 1991.
- Frost, Lee. *Teach Yourself Photography*, 2nd ed. McGraw-Hill, 2004.
- Grimm, Tom, and Michele Grimm. *The Basic Book of Photography: 2004 Edition*. Plume, 2003.
- Horton, Brian. *Associated Press Guide to Photojournalism*, 2nd ed. McGraw-Hill, 2001.
- Johnson, Bervin M., et al. *Opportunities in Photography Careers*. McGraw-Hill/ Contemporary Books, 1998.
- Kelby, Scott. *The Photoshop Book for Digital Photographers*. New Riders, 2003.
- London, Barbara, John Upton, et al. *Photography*, 7th ed. Prentice Hall, 2001.
- Long, Ben. *Complete Digital Photography*, 2nd ed. Charles River Media, 2002.
- Norton, Boyd. *The Art of Outdoor Photography: Techniques for the Advanced Amateur and Professional*. Voyageur Press, 2002.
- Sammon, Rick. Rick Sammon's Complete Guide to Digital Photography: 107 Lessons on Taking, Making, Editing, Storing, Printing, and Sharing Better Digital Images. W. W. Norton, 2003.
- Shaw, John. *John Shaw's Nature Photography Field Guide*. Watson-Guptill, 2000.

### Magazines

#### ***eDigitalPhoto***

Primedia Inc.

745 Fifth Ave.

New York, NY 10151

Web site: <http://www.edigitalphoto.com/>

E-mail: [edigitalphoto@palmcoastd.com](mailto:edigitalphoto@palmcoastd.com)

#### ***News Photographer***

National Press Photographers Association

3200 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 306

Durham, NC 27705

Telephone: 919-383-7246

Web site: [http://www.nppa.org/news\\_and\\_events/magazine/](http://www.nppa.org/news_and_events/magazine/)

#### ***OnLine Photography: The Journal of Fine Art Photography***

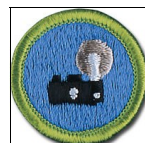
Web site: <http://www.onlinephotography.com/>

#### ***PhotoGraphic Magazine***

Toll-free telephone: 800-800-3686

Web site: <http://www.photographic.com>

E-mail: [photographic@palmcoastd.com](mailto:photographic@palmcoastd.com)

**Photo Techniques**

6600 West Touhy Ave.

Niles, IL 60714

Telephone: 847-647-2900

Web site: <http://www.phototechmag.com/>

**Popular Photography & Imaging**

1633 Broadway

New York, NY 10019

Telephone: 212-767-6000

Web site: <http://www.popphoto.com/>

**Organizations and Associations****American Society of Picture Professionals**

409 South Washington St.

Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone: 703-299-0219

Web site: <http://www.aspp.com/>

**International Association of Panoramic Photographers**

8855 Redwood St.

Las Vegas, NV 89139

Telephone: 702-260-4608

Web site: <http://www.panoramicassociation.org/>

**National Press Photographers Association**

3200 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 306

Durham, NC 27705

Telephone: 919-383-7246

Web site: <http://www.nppa.org/>

**Photographic Society of America**

3000 United Founders Blvd., Suite 103

Oklahoma City, OK 73112-3940

Telephone: 405-843-1437

Web site: <http://www.psa-photo.org/>

**Professional Photographers of America**

229 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 2200

Atlanta, GA 30303

Toll-free telephone: 800-786-6277

Web site: <http://www.ppa.com/>

**Student Photographic Society**

229 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 2200

Atlanta, GA 30303

Toll-free telephone: 800-339-5451, extension 237

Web site: <http://www.studentphoto.com/>